

NEW ARMY GENERATES CONFIDENCE

Gloom Among British Vanishes with Raising of Additional Forces and Marked Change in Mental Atmosphere is Manifested

FOUR MILLION MEN NOW IN UNIFORM

"England Preparing to Throw Whole Weight into War," Declares Minister of Munitions; No Shortage of Shells Expected

By WILBUR S. FORREST.
(United Press Staff Correspondent.)
LONDON, Feb. 26.—(By Mail.)—

There's a brand new germ in the British air. Atmospheric atoms that had the general effect of something akin to gloom several months ago and which prompted British statesmen and public alike to speak less confidently about the final outcome of the war, have disappeared. These atoms have been replaced by brighter colored atoms; peppy, optimistic little tikes. From the big government buildings in Whitehall to the smallest London shop there is a marked change in the conversation. Every man in the street knows that Britain is getting ready for the big show. The average Britisher still throws out his chest if the navy is mentioned, but today he will show a broader expanse of shirt-front when it comes to talk about the army. The predominant topic of interest has become the Tommies.

With about 4,000,000 men in khaki, England is preparing to do things in the spring, on land. That is common talk. No Britisher lost any of his confidence in the navy, but he has given up hope that the German fleet will come out and fight, so he is leaving the navy to control the seas and taking for granted that it will.

Cabinet members, peers and plebeians alike look forward to the spring campaign. The government leaders who six months ago modified their earlier pronouncements that "Germany must be crushed" to the gentler assertion that "the war cannot cease until the enemy has evacuated France and Belgium and restored the rights of smaller nations," are today reasserting the former statement with unequalled vigor. The reason is said to be new confidence in the army.

Proof that the present talk does not originate in ordinary rumor comes from the highest sources. Lord Derby, who raised new millions for England's land forces, is authority for the statement that England's military forces now are superior to those of her enemies in reserves and fighting ability; that the nation has reached the highest pitch of national patriotism and that this is evidenced by the fact that the men who will be forced to fight under the newly enacted conscription bill will number less than seven per cent of the fighting eligibles as against over 32 per cent who joined voluntarily. Here is one of the latest utterances of Lloyd George, minister of munitions:

"England is preparing to put her whole weight into the war, and Germany will feel it in a very short time. It is an effort such as England has never made before." Those who have analyzed the minister's statements say it can only mean that there will be no shortage of shells in the spring.

In their latest speeches Lord Kitchener, Premier Asquith and others high in the government, have reflected the new optimism. In his message at the opening of the new parliamentary session King George speaking through his premier, declared:

"With a proud and grateful confidence I look to the courage, tenacity and resource of my navy and army, on whom we depend worthily to perform our part in the attainment of this goal."

"Gentlemen of the house of commons, you will be asked to make undue financial provisions for the conduct of the war."

"My lords and gentlemen: The only measures which will be submitted to you are such as, in the opinion of my advisers, tend to the attainment of our common object. I confidently commend them to our patriotism and loyalty and I pray that the Almighty will

give his blessing to your counsels." Lord Roseberry, among others, already is anticipating the results of initial victories. Speaking at Edinburgh he declared that his only fear was that when allied successes began weak minds in the nation might cry for a premature peace. "This," he added, "would mean a short peace and a worse war to follow. Germany must be absolutely crushed."

With thousands of recruits, enlisted under the Derby group system, distributing themselves throughout the country, veteran regiments that have been training for months, are making way for the raw ones. Where the veterans are going is a war office secret, but the public is aware that they're going "somewhere" where they'll have sterner duties. In a dozen big military camps in England, Scotland and Wales, tens of thousands of enlisted men who have become "fed up" with camp and billet life are reviving under the influence of the hope of "going out soon," according to reports reaching London. Troop trains often pass through London with flatcars trailing behind carrying artillery.

These are only a few of the elements which have inspired confidence in the most doubting war pessimist of late. Everybody admits that the war has been bungled somewhat in the past but evidently there is unanimous optimism about the future. It is a newly colored atom in the British atmosphere that a neutral cannot help but observe.

HEAVY LOSS OF LIFE ON WARSHIP

By United Press.
PARIS, Feb. 29.—Over one thousand lives are believed to have been lost when the French auxiliary cruiser Provence sank in the Mediterranean Saturday.

It is officially stated that the vessel had eighteen hundred persons aboard. Of those two hundred ninety-six were landed at Malta, and about four hundred on the Greek island of Melos. Others reported rescued make the total number saved about eight hundred.

The Provence, formerly a transatlantic liner and had a tonnage of eighteen thousand. It is believed to have been carrying troops to or from Saloniki.

EX-MAYOR OF DALLAS DEAD.

By United Press.
DALLAS, Tex., Feb. 29.—Stephen J. Hay, former mayor of Dallas and one of the prominent financiers of the city, died this morning of cerebrospinal meningitis.

AMAZON OF SERBIA



In this young Serbian is found personified patriotism. This Amazon has borne hardship, humiliation and embarrassment, to bear arms for her war-torn country. Bravely she shouldered her gun and accompanied her fighting brothers through all the recent campaigns, and not until she was physically exhausted did she resign herself to defeat and suffer herself to be made prisoner. Owing to her inability to secure female attire, she was compelled to wear whatever clothing she could obtain. She is now interned in a German prison camp and is treated as a civilian prisoner.

DIPLOMAT IS REBUKED BY SECRETARY

Lansing Issues Statement Saying Contents of Last German Communication Not Given Out by Him; No Views Expressed

LITTLE IMMEDIATE DANGER IN SIGHT

Policy of Administration Awaits Evidence Against England; Lid Flies Off in House and Mondell Opens Up on Wilson

By United Press.
WASHINGTON, D. C., Feb. 29.—A statement issued by Secretary Lansing today is regarded as another direct rebuke to Ambassador Bernstorff for what the secretary considers improper publicity work on the part of the German diplomat.

The formal statement of Lansing says the contents of the German memorandum that was laid before the state department yesterday by Bernstorff was not made public by the secretary or by the department.

Lansing further said that no statements had been made by him expressing the department's views regarding the memorandum. The morning papers published what purported to be a paraphrase of the memorandum.

Americans are in little danger from the new Teutonic submarine decree which goes into effect on the stroke of 12 tonight. This is the consensus of opinion of official Washington.

There is small likelihood that any Americans will be killed or injured, it is declared. The administration's policy, however, awaits the receipt of German evidence that England has given the commanders of all her merchantmen secret orders to attack submarines.

The congressional lid on debate of the international controversy flew off today in the house.

Representative Mondell made a lengthy attack on President Wilson for his refusal to warn Americans to stay off of armed merchantmen.

Oil Tanker in Danger.

By United Press.
NEW YORK, Feb. 29.—The Standard oil tanker Commenda received wireless warnings on February 17 to watch out for a German raider. It was thought that the raider was possibly accompanied by consorts in the Atlantic.

NEW STORE WILL OPEN

"The Toggery" will be opened on or about March 15, in the rooms recently occupied by the Grady County Commercial and Farm bureau at 324 Chickasha avenue.

The "Toggery" will be under the management of Messrs. J. S. Garner and W. S. Richards, and will be devoted exclusively to handling gentlemen's furnishing goods, hats and tailor-made suits. The tailoring department will be in charge of A. Porter, an experienced and capable workman.

The store will be modernly equipped with latest styles of show cases in order that the full lines of haberdashery which will be carried may be properly shown.

6 KILLED IN EXPLOSION

By United Press.
KEMPTON, Mo., Feb. 29.—Six miners were killed and many injured, with 23 still entombed, as a result of an explosion in a coal mine here today.

The explosion occurred in mine No. 42 of the Davis Collier company and is believed to have been caused by dust.

SULTAN KOTCHALI OF ARAS, PERSIA



The fortunes of war in the corner of Persia around Lake Urumiah have been very varied, with Turks, Persians and Russians holding the ascendancy at different times. The Sultan (or Khan) Kotchali who rules the district near Aras, has had a specially adventurous time. He fought the Russians when they invaded his little domain and later with the aid of the Turks drove out the Cossacks. He immediately launched an attack against the Christian Armenians and Syrians, and is reported to have massacred 80 of them. The Russians again advanced and the khan is now fighting with the Turks under German direction.

CAMPAIGN FOR CHURCH IS PLANNED

By United Press.
DALLAS, Tex., Feb. 29.—Three bishops are here for the inspirational exercises which opened here today as a preliminary to the Methodist "win-one" campaign, to be conducted in Texas and New Mexico, starting March 12. They are Bishop J. H. McCoy of Birmingham, Bishop W. R. Lambuth and Bishop E. D. Moulton.

Thousands of workers from all parts of the state attended the initial meeting today in the First Methodist church at which Bishop McCoy presided. Rev. John M. Moore conducted the devotional exercises. Bishop Lambuth will speak on "Prayer and the Revival" tonight.

A feature of tomorrow's program will be the "round table" luncheon in the Adolphus hotel. Dr. Moore will preside. The speakers tomorrow morning will include Rev. Cullum H. Booth, Rev. Luther E. Todd, Rev. R. P. Chilton, Rev. Ivan Lee Holt, Rev. W. T. Renfro and Bishop Moulton. In the afternoon the speakers will be Rev. J. W. Nills, Rev. Hoyt Dobbs, Rev. H. D. Kaickerbocker, Rev. C. Dial, Rev. C. A. Spragins and Rev. W. D. Bradford. The devotional exercises in the evening will be conducted by Rev. S. R. Hay.

Thursday's speakers will be Rev. C. N. Ferguson, Rev. J. H. Groseclose, Rev. J. T. Griswold, Rev. O. E. Goddard, Bishop McCoy, Rev. A. L. Andrews, Rev. W. J. Johnson, Rev. Glenn Finn, Rev. H. M. Long and R. S. Tate. The meeting will close Thursday afternoon.

The presiding elders of the north-west Texas conference of the Southern Methodist church and those of the central conference held separate meetings in the Methodist Publishing house this afternoon.

LEGAL PUZZLE IS PRESENTED

By United Press.
FORT WORTH, Tex., Feb. 29.—The grand jury today began an investigation of the Warren Hunter murder. Indictments against the two Harrisons are expected this afternoon or tomorrow.

The disposition of the case of Mrs. Harrison, even if she is indicted, is puzzling the authorities. Her age makes her a juvenile and her marriage makes her legally a woman. Neither Harrison or his bride can testify against the other, making each the sole witness against himself.

It is admitted that the case presents more legal puzzles than any of a similar kind in the history of the state.

RIFLE CLUBS REVIVED IN BAY STATE

By United Press.
BOSTON, Feb. 29.—The spring tournament of the Massachusetts Association of the National Rifle Association begins here today with special matches at the Bay State school of musketry's new ranges. The matches will continue for seven or eight weeks, and with the increasing number of clubs joining the association, promises to produce some hard fought contests.

Massachusetts has had a revival of rifle clubs this year, because of the preparedness spirit which has swept the state. Hundreds of new clubs have been formed, and plenty of trophies have been offered for the marksmen. Special interest is shown in the individual matches held at the new ranges on Gainsborough street, Boston, and a table of figures kept by Major Portal, who has been one of the leading factors in the newly popular sport, shows that the standard of efficiency has been greatly increased.

The department stores of Boston have taken up the rifle club idea and nearly all have teams made up from among their employees. Colleges and schools around the city also are showing increasing interest in rifle teams, and many have applied for membership in the N. A. R.

YODER FOR WEIGHER

J. D. Yoder of this city has decided to make the race for the Democratic nomination for county weigher and he formally announces his candidacy today.

Mr. Yoder is a native of Indiana and has lived in this section for about thirty years. Prior to coming to Chickasha he was engaged in farming in this county. For several years he has been in charge of the street sprinkling contract in Chickasha. All his life he has been a strong democrat.

"I believe I am able to handle the office of county weigher to the satisfaction of the people," said Mr. Yoder, "and in case the voters see fit to entrust the office to me, I promise them the very best service of which I am capable. I shall give it my undivided attention and it will be my first purpose to discharge the duties of the office faithfully and efficiently. I hope to be able to meet the voters personally and I shall appreciate any consideration that they may give to my candidacy."

TURN OF TIDE IN BATTLE DUE

TWO ABSCONDERS ARRESTED IN S. A.

By United Press.
WASHINGTON, D. C., Feb. 29.—Clarence Magoon, former city tax collector of Dallas, and John Morgan, former saloon keeper there, have been arrested in Montevideo, South America. The state department received advice to this effect today. Both of the men are charged with absconding with city funds.

AMERICAN IS MURDERED

By United Press.
WASHINGTON, D. C., Feb. 29.—Grover Varn, an American citizen, was murdered last night at his home, 20 miles north of Durango, Mexico, according to advice received today by the state department.

It was alleged in the reports received that Villistas were responsible for the murder. No details of the crime were received.

STEAMER IN DISTRESS

By United Press.
GALVESTON, Tex., Feb. 29.—The American steamer Honduras is in distress 25 miles off Galveston.

The first officer of the vessel was brought off port by a fishing schooner. He reported that the Honduras lost a rudder one hundred miles out and was proceeding under its jury rig. The cutter Comanche has gone to the assistance of the Honduras.

CONSULT ABOUT EXTENSION OF WATER MAINS

A. C. Bradley, division engineer for the C. R. I. & P. Ry. Co., with headquarters at El Reno, was in Chickasha for several hours this morning in consultation with Frank Scrimager, superintendent of the water works department of the city, relative to the extension, ordered by the council at the last meeting, to connect the yards of the railway company with the water mains through larger intake pipes.

Mr. Bradley told Mr. Scrimager that the railway company was ready to get busy right now in doing that part of the work which will be required of them, laying the pipe through the round house yards and connecting the same with the company's treating plant.

Mr. Scrimager stated that he was experiencing some trouble in securing prices on four-inch cast iron pipe, such as will be needed in laying these connections.

RELEASED ON STAY BOND.

Esmer McAlister, convicted in Judge Davenport's court yesterday of stealing meat from Jake Mutz at Ninnekah, and fined in the sum of \$25 and costs, has been released from custody on a stay bond which will give him thirty days in which to raise the amount due the county, a total of \$44.

WEATHER FORECAST.

For Oklahoma.

Tonight, fair, warmer in west portion; Wednesday, partly cloudy.

Local Temperature.

During twenty-four hours ending 8 a. m. today:

Maximum, 33 degrees.

Minimum, 24 degrees.

DECISIVE STRUGGLE TO START

Germans Bring Up Biggest Guns to Blast Way Through Armored Trenches; Entire Western Front on Verge of Explosion

By United Press.
BERLIN, Feb. 29.—The war office announced today that the Germans captured an armored redoubt north of Fort Douaumont and also took 16,000 French prisoners in the Woëvre region where the Teutons are assailing the French positions east of Verdun.

Repulse German Attacks.
By United Press.
PARIS, Feb. 29.—All German attacks in the Verdun district during the past 24 hours have been repulsed, says the official statement issued by the war office today.

It is reported that the French now entirely surround Fort Douaumont. The war office admitted that the Germans captured the village of Manhoules, 11 miles southeast of Verdun, in efforts to force the evacuation of Verdun by the "squeezing out" process.

The loss of several French trenches in Lorraine was also admitted by the war office.

By United Press.
LONDON, Feb. 29.—It is believed this morning that the decisive stage in the great battle for the possession of Verdun is about to begin.

Dispatches say the Germans, after having been checked in their savage onslaughts on Pepper heights, are moving up their heaviest artillery for the purpose of blasting their way through the armored trenches on the ridge which has barred further advance on Verdun from the north.

The Teutons are reported to be feeling out the French lines with artillery poundings along a front one hundred miles long. Infantry attacks along the same line are also in progress.

There is every indication that the whole western front will suddenly burst into a struggle baffling the imagination to conceive of its magnitude and frightfulness.

A Central News agency dispatch from Amsterdam reports that over 45,000 Germans have been killed in the assaults around Verdun.

Notwithstanding the fresh reserves the French have thrown into the fray at Fort Douaumont, the German war office declares that their efforts have been fruitless and that the Germans have advanced their lines toward Bras and Vacherauville. It also is claimed that the Germans have entirely expelled French from the Meuse peninsula southward from Samagneux and west of Vacherauville.

The new movement in the Champagne is on a front much nearer Paris than the scene of the operations against Verdun, the former front being approximately one hundred miles from Paris.

Apparently there have been German gains of some importance along the eastern line of the Verdun salient leading to St. Michael, where the Teutons, pushing westward, are pounding the defenses of Manhoules ten miles southeast of Verdun. They have not been able to advance beyond this point, however, but reached the foot of the French positions at Cote Lorraine at several points, Berlin announced.

Turks Evacuating.

By United Press.
PETROGRAD, Feb. 29.—Reports from Tiflis say the Turks are evacuating the important Black sea port of Trebizond and the neighboring cities, retreating before the advance of the Russian forces.

One Slav army is reported to be moving westward along the coast and another northward from Erzerum. Both are now said to be within fifty miles of Trebizond.